

OPERATIONS BULLETIN # 1

Subject: Closest Resources Concept – Requesting Mutual Aid From Adjoining Operational Areas and Regions

HISTORY

On October 11, 2007, the Cal EMA Fire and Rescue Services Advisory Committee/ FIREScope Board of Directors voted to authorize the following changes to the California Fire and Rescue Emergency Mutual Aid Plan as part of a pilot project.

PURPOSE

To provide guidance regarding closest resources concept to Operational Area Fire and Rescue Coordinators and the Regional Fire and Rescue Coordinators when requesting mutual aid from adjoining operational areas or regions when appropriate.

GUIDANCE

Effective immediately, the Cal EMA Fire and Rescue Operational Areas and Cal EMA Fire and Rescue Regions are authorized to directly order/fill initial attack/immediate need engine requests with up to 5 strike teams or task forces from one adjacent Cal EMA Operational Area/ Region based on the closest resource concept.

The Operational Area Fire and Rescue Coordinator:

Evaluates request for assistance from local agency; determines if the timeliest assistance is from one adjacent operational area and if so, request assistance from that Operational Area Fire and Rescue Coordinator, not to exceed five strike teams or task forces. The Operational Area Fire and Rescue Coordinator shall immediately notify the Cal EMA Regional Fire and Rescue Coordinator and the Regional Fire and Rescue Coordinator shall immediately notify the State Fire and Rescue Coordinator of this action to ensure the necessary resource tracking, notifications, and coordination matters are appropriately addressed. When resources are needed from more than one adjacent area, either for timely response or when the need is beyond operational area capability, the request must be made to the region.

The Regional Fire and Rescue Coordinator:

Evaluates requests for assistance from Area; determines the region resources from that region which can provide the timeliest assistance, and initiates appropriate response thereof. Determines if the timeliest and closest assistance is from an adjacent region and if so, requests assistance from that Region Fire and Rescue Coordinator not to exceed five strike teams or task forces. The Region Fire and Rescue Coordinator shall immediately notify the State Fire and Rescue Coordinator of this action. When resources are needed from more than one adjacent region, either for timely response or when the need is beyond region capability, the request must be made to the State.